

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BRUSSE 03665 01 OF 02 241846Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 HA-05 ACDA-12 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01
SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /090 W
-----022958 241856Z /45

O 241824Z FEB 78

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5117

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BRUSSELS 03665

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, PDEV, WA, BE

SUBJECT: SWAPO PRESIDENT MEETS WITH BELGIAN FOREIGN
MINISTER SIMONET

REF: A) STATE 46157, B) THE HAGUE 0897

1. SUMMARY: SWAPO PRESIDENT SAM NUJOMA, IN BRUSSELS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BRUSSE 03665 01 OF 02 241846Z

FEBRUARY 23-25, MEETS WITH BELGIAN FOREIGN MINISTER
HENRI SIMONET THE MORNING OF FEBRUARY 24. FOREIGN
MINISTRY AFRICAN AFFAIRS OFFICER (VAN OVERBERGHE),
WHO ATTENDED THE MEETING, GAVE US THE FOLLOWING READ-OUT.
END SUMMARY.

2. VAN OVERBERGHE TOLD US THAT NUJOMA, ACCOMPANIED

BY A MR. TJONGARERO AND AN UNIDENTIFIED "SECRETARY OF EDUCATION," BEGAN THEIR PRESENTATION BY TELLING SIMONET THAT SWAPO HAS VIEWED BELGIUM AS A "TRUTHFUL ALLY" SINCE BELGIUM HOSTED THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NAMIBIA IN 1972. MUJOMA SAID THAT SWAPO VIEWS UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 385 AS THE BASIS FOR A NAMIBIA SOLUTION AND STRESSED THAT THE RESOLUTION CALLED ON THE "ENTIRE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY" TO ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR A SOLUTION. ON THE QUESTION OF SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS IN NAMIBIA, NUJOMA TOLD SIMONET THAT PRIME MINISTER VORSTER "NEEDED A FACE-SAVING DEVICE" AND THIS WAS THE REASON THAT SWAPO HAD AGREED TO ALLOW 1500 SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS TO BE STATIONED IN NAMIBIA, HE SAID THAT SWAPO WILL KEEP ON INSISTING THAT THESE TROOPS BE KEPT "IN THE SOUTH" AND IN ONLY ONE PLACE IF POSSIBLE.

3. REGARDING WALVIS BAY, NUJOMA TOLD SIMONET THAT THE ENCLAVE HAD ALWAYS BEEN ADMINISTERED FROM WINDHOEK AND THAT THEREFORE TO ARGUE THAT IT BELONGED TO CAPETOWN WAS A "REVERSAL OF HISTORY." HE EMPHASIZED THAT WALVIS BAY WAS AN "INTEGRAL PART OF NAMIBIA" AND SWAPO WOULD NOT BUDGE ON THIS POINT. HE SAID THE CONTACT GROUP KNOWS THAT THERE CANNOT BE A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF THE NAMIBIA QUESTION WITHOUT INCLUDING WALVIS BAY.

4. NUJOMA SAID THAT THE UN ADMINISTRATOR IN NAMIBIA MUST
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BRUSSE 03665 01 OF 02 241846Z

HAVE AT HIS DISPOSAL AN "ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE" AS WELL AS MILITARY POWER TO SUPERVISE FREE ELECTIONS. THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT WAS A "RUTHLESS REGIME" SIMILAR TO THAT OF "NAZI GERMANY" AND, THEREFORE "CANNOT BE TRUSTED." THE PRESENT POLICE FORCES IN NAMIBIA ARE EQUIPPED WITH MILITARY EQUIPMENT RATHER THAN POLICE EQUIPMENT. THIS MILITARY EQUIPMENT MUST BE TAKEN FROM THEM.

5. ON POLITICAL PRISONERS, NUJOMA TOLD SIMONET THAT SWAPO HAS APPROXIMATELY "1000 DISSIDENTS" UNDER DETENTION IN ZAMBIA AND TANZANIA. THESE ARE PEOPLE WHO HAD BEEN "PLANTED" BY SOUTH AFRICA IN THE SWAPO RANKS. SWAPO IS WILLING TO RELEASE THEM IN EXCHANGE FOR THE RELEASE OF SWAPO PRISONERS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

6. NUJOMA SAID THAT THERE HAD BEEN "NO POSSIBILITY" OF POSITIVE RESULTS COMING FROM THE RECENT UN PROXIMITY TALKS BECAUSE SOUTH AFRICAN FOREIGN MINISTER BOTHA HAD ARRIVED IN NEW YORK WITH "PREJUDGED IDEAS." IT WAS NO SUPRISE, THEREFORE, THAT HE LEFT AS SOON AS HE DID. NEVERTHELESS, SWAPO REMAINS PREPARED TO CONTINUE THE

PROCESS TOWARDS PEACE AND IS PREPARED TO OPEN NEW NEGOTIATIONS AT ANY TIME.

7. FOREIGN MINISTER SIMONET TOLD NUJOMA THAT HE HAD JUST CONSULTED WITH THE CONTACT GROUP AS WELL AS WITH BELGIUM'S ALLIES AND THEREFORE HIS COMMENTS REFLECTED THEIR VIEWS AND NOT SOLELY THE VIEWS OF THE BELGIAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BRUSSE 03665 02 OF 02 241844Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 HA-05 ACDA-12 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01
SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /090 W
-----022866 241856Z /42

O 241824Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5118
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
USMISSION GENEVA
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BRUSSELS 03665

GOVERNMENT. HE URGED NUJOMA NOT TO LET THE "MOMENTUM PASS" AND SAID THAT NOW THAT NEGOTIATIONS HAD BEGUN THEY MUST BE KEPT GOING. HE SAID THAT THE INDEPENDENCE OF NAMIBIA WAS THE PRIORITY GOAL OF THIS NEGOTIATING PROCESS AND THAT THE STATIONING OF SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS

THROUGHOUT NAMIBIA WAS "NOT ACCEPTABLE." HE TOLD NUJOMA THAT IT WAS "ADVISABLE" THAT UN FORCES SUPERVISE THE NAMIBIAN ELECTIONS. AS FOR THE WALVIS BAY ISSUE, SIMONET
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BRUSSE 03665 02 OF 02 241844Z

SAID THAT HE DID NOT THINK THAT A SOLUTION TO THAT PROBLEM COULD BE FOUND BEFORE NAMIBIAN INDEPENDENCE. HE CLOSED HIS REMARKS BY STRESSING TO NUJOMA THAT BELGIUM IS PREPARED TO CONSIDER, EITHER ALONE OR WITH HER ALLIES, ANY PROPOSALS THAT SWAPO MAKES THAT WILL HBLP LEAD TOWARDS A "PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT."

8. NUJOMA ASKED SIMONET FOR BELGIAN SUPPORT IN THE UNSC, THE UNGA AND WITH HER E.C. PARTNERS. SIMONET REPLIED THAT SWAPO COULD COUNT ON BELGIAN SUPPORT IN THE UN AND THAT BELGIUM WOULD DISCUSS EC-9 SUPPORT OF SWAPO WITH HER EC PARTNERS. AT THIS JUNCTURE, SIMONET LEFT FOR A CABINET MEETING AND CHEF DE CABINET CAHEN ASKED NUJOMA ABOUT CURRENT PRESS ALLEGATIONS THAT SWAPO HAD KIDNAPPED NAMIBIAN CHILDREN AND CARRIED THEM OFF TO ANGOLA. NUJOMA DUBBED THESE STORIES "SOUTH AFRICAN PROPAGANDA" AND SAID THAT A GROUP OF NAMIBIAN CHILDREN HAD "VOLUNTARILY" GONE TO ANGOLA UNDER SWAPO ESCORT AND PROTECTION.

9. CAHEN TOLD NUJOMA THAT THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT HAD DECIDED TO PROVIDE ONE MILLION BELGIAN FRANCS TO THE UN SPECIAL NAMIBIA FUND. NUJOMA ASKED FOR BELGIAN HUMANITARIAN AID TO NAMIBIA AND CAHEN REPLIED THAT THE MATTER WOULD BE STUDIED.

10. VAN OVERBERGHE TOLD US THAT THE SWAPO LEADERS WILL LEAVE FEBRUARY 25 FOR GENEVA AND HAD TOLD HIM THEY THEN WOULD BE GOING TO AFRICA RATHER THAN RETURNING TO NEW YORK. VAN OVERBERGHE SAID THE SWAPO GROUP HAD ALREADY VISITED THE HAGUE, STOCKHOLM, AND HELSINKI ON THIS CURRENT EUROPEAN SWING AND HAD CANCELLED A PLANNED PARIS STOP. WE UNDERSTAND THAT NEW ANGOLAN AMBASSADOR TO BELGIUM AND THE EC, LUIS JOSE DE ALMEIDA, WILL GIVE A RECEPTION
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BRUSSE 03665 02 OF 02 241844Z

FOR THE SWAPO LEADERS THE EVENING OF FEBRUARY 24.

11. WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING PERIODIC RUN DOWNS ON CURRENTS NAMIBIAN AND ANGOLAN DEVELOPMENTS AS APPROPRIATE. CHAMBERS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BRUSSE03665
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780086-0654
Format: TEL
From: BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780218/aaaaapds.tel
Line Count: 223
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 63db38d0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 46157, 78 THE HAGUE 897
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3492595
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SWAPO PRESIDENT MEETS WITH BELGIAN FOREIGN MINISTER SIMONET
TAGS: PEPR, PDEV, WA, BE, SWAPO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/63db38d0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014